

2021 EFSA European Shore Angling Championships



The Covid 19 postponed 2020 EFSA Shore Angling Championships were re-arranged for competition from September 29th to October 2nd, 2021. The HQ venue was The Upton Court Hotel in Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford where the parade of national flags & opening ceremony took place on the evening of Wednesday September 29th. This was followed by the zone draw where competitors were allocated their daily beach sections. Competing Nations were: England, Germany, Iceland, Netherlands, Wales & hosts, Ireland.

The 59 competitors from the 6 nations assembled on Thursday morning for bait distribution at 10.30AM with a planned fishing session on Morriscastle Beach from 2pm to 7pm. The supplied baits were mackerel, sand-eel, black lug wraps, king rag & harbour rag (maddies). High winds & a driving surf however forced a 1 hour delay reducing the allocated fishing time to 4 hours.

The anglers assembled at their zones to draw their zone position & the match got underway at 3pm.

The fishing was extremely slow with very few fish being captured early on. It did pick up somewhat later but only 106 fish were recorded for the 4 hour session. Zone winners were Stephen Glynn (IRE, day winner), Micheál Quinn (IRE), Reg Clough (ENG), John O'Connor (WAL), Wilco Keur (NED) & Warren Doyle (IRE) joint winners in Zone C.

Best round fish was a superb 50cm Bass for John Hughes (IRE) & best flat fish was a 33cm Flounder for Don Scott (IRE).

Day winner Stephen Glynn set about defending his title won in Iceland in 2019 with the best score on the day, 246 points.

Best Lady was Katharina Schleiff (GER), best Junior was Ove Hansen (GER) & best Senior (over 65) was John O'Connor (WAL).

The venue for day 2 was Clone Strand (Kilgorman) where fishing got underway at 2pm for a 5 hours session. Fishing was again very slow with some sections having no fish early on. When lines in was called the zone winners were: Stephen Glynn defending his title in style with another day win, Wilco Keur also recorded his second win, Paul Whelan (IRE), Volker Claus (GER) & Helgi Bergsson (ICE) were the other zone winners.

A total of 179 fish were recorded on day 2.

Best round fish, a 97cm Smoothound was captured by Hans Juergen Glaeser (GER).

Best flat fish was a 32cm Thornback Ray for Marcus Wuest (GER).

Best after day 2 were: Lady, Anne Whitty (IRE), Junior, Ove Hansen, Senior, Warren Doyle (IRE).

Day 3 had the anglers at Curracloe Beach for an 11am start for their 5 hour session. Torrential rain marred the first 2 hours however the fishing was better than the previous 2 days with many anglers recording fish on their first cast. The all day rising tide gave a big improvement in the capture rate with 330 fish recorded for the session. Reports along the beach were that Paul Whelan was fairly rocking the fish in & so it proved when he took the day win with 31 fish for 830 points. The other zone winners were: Andreas Burkhardt (GER), Helgi Bergsson, Mike Flynn (WAL) & J. P. Molloy (IRE).

Best Lady on day 3 was Anne Whitty, best Junior was Nathan Kearns (IRE) & best Senior was Dave Lovelock (ENG).

Best round fish was a 43cm bass for Andreas Burkhardt. Best flat fish were 4 X 30cm flounders.

Species recorded during the event were: Common Eel, Bass, Dab, Flounder, Tub Gurnard, Grey Gurnard, Lesser Spotted Dogfish, Plaice, Thornback Ray, Rockling & Smoothound.

The Gala Dinner & Prize presentation took place at The Upton Court Hotel at 8pm. The anglers, wives, partners & guests enjoyed a wonderful meal prior to the awarding of prizes.

EFSA Ireland Chairman George McCullough opened the proceedings. He thanked those who had worked to make the event the success that it was. He also thanked the staff who had very professionally & efficiently served the meal.

He made special mention to those who had supported the EFSA Ireland organising committee with running the event: TronixPro Fishing Tackle, Inland Fisheries Ireland, Wexford County Council, Swords Angling, Southside Angling, Waterford Outdoor & Angling Centre, Waterford Glass, Adlantic Sales, without whose support the event would have been impossible to host.

The awards were presented by EFSA Shore Festival Officer, Phil Lustig & the much coveted Gold, Silver & Bronze Lapel Pins were affixed by EFSA President, Marcus Wuest.

The award winners in the various categories were:

Individual. Gold, Paul Whelan. Silver, Micheál Quinn. Bronze, Wilco Keur.

Ladies. Gold, Anne Whitty. Silver, Miranda Koop (NED). Bronze, Katharina Schleiff.

Junior. Gold, Ove Hansen. Silver, Nathan Kearns.

Senior. Gold, Reg Clough. Silver, Anne Whitty. Bronze, Dave Lovelock.

2 Person Team.

Gold. Anne Whitty & Paul Whelan.

Silver. Marcus Wuest & Micheál Quinn.

Bronze. Paull Curtice (ENG) & Wilco Keur.

3 Person Team.

Gold. Barrie Senior (ENG), Daniel Tucker (WAL), Helgi Bergsson.

Silver. Dean Forbes (IRE), Stephen Glynn, Volker Claus.

Bronze. Wilco Keur, Dean Costello (IRE), Reg Clough.

4 Person Team.

Gold. Anne Whitty, Micheál Quinn, Alan Cheswick (WAL), Phil Lustig (WAL).

Silver. Dave Clark (ENG), Wilco Keur, Paull Curtice, Warren Doyle.

Bronze. Dave Lovelock, Jane Cantwell (IRE), Barrie Senior, Dieter Grossmann (GER).

5 Person International Team.

Gold. Ireland 'A'. Shay O'Neill, John Hughes, Micheál Quinn, Stephen Glynn, Paul Whelan.

Silver. England 'A'. Dave Lovelock, Reg Clough, Paull Curtice, Allen Jones, Stuart Jones.

Bronze. Germany 'A'. Andreas Burkhardt, Bjorn Hansen, Dieter Grossmann,

Katharina Schleiff, Hans Juergen Glaeser.

The Committee of EFSA Ireland wish to thank everyone who travelled from far & near, in these trying times, to make the event such a success. We hope to see you in Ireland again in the near future.

Thank you all.